

Habitat Assessment, Glide/Pool Prevalence (modified after Plafkin et al., 1989).

Stream Name: _____ Station _____ Date _____ Location Description _____

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - Division of Environmental Quality HABITAT ASSESSMENT FIELD DATA SHEET GLIDE/POOL PREVALENCE

CATEGORY

| HABITAT PARAMETER | OPTIMAL | SUB-OPTIMAL | MARGINAL | POOR |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| 1. Bottom substrate/ instream cover | Greater than 50% mix of rubble, gravel, submerged logs, undercut banks, or other stable habitat. 16-20 _____ | 30-50% mix of rubble, gravel, or other stable habitat. Adequate habitat. 11-15 _____ | 10-30% mix of rubble, gravel, or other stable habitat. Habitat availability less than desirable. 6-10 _____ | Less than 10% rubble, gravel or other stable habitat. Lack of habitat is obvious. 0-5 _____ |
| 2. Pool substrate characterization | Mixture of substrate materials with gravel and firm sand prevalent, root mats and submerged vegetation common. 16-20 _____ | Mixture of soft sand, mud, or clay; mud may be dominant; some root mats and submerged vegetation present. 11-15 _____ | All mud or clay or channelized with sand bottom; little or no root mat; no submerged vegetation. 6-10 _____ | Hard-pan clay or bedrock; no root mat or vegetation. 0-5 _____ |
| 3. Pool variability | Even mix of deep/shallow/ large/small pools present. 16-20 _____ | Majority of pools large and deep; very few shallow. 11-15 _____ | Shallow pools much more prevalent than deep pools. 6-10 _____ | Majority of pools small and shallow or pools absent. 0-5 _____ |
| 4. Canopy cover (shading) | A mixture of conditions where some areas of water surface fully exposed to sunlight, and other receiving various degrees of filtered light. 16-20 _____ | Covered by sparse canopy; entire water surface receiving filtered light. 11-15 _____ | Completely covered by dense canopy; water surface completely shaded. OR nearly full sunlight reaching water surface. Shading limited to < 3 hours per day. 6-10 _____ | Lack of canopy, full sunlight reaching water surface. 0-5 _____ |

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| 5. Channel alteration | Little or no enlargement of islands or point bars, add/or no channelization. 12-15 _____ | Some new increase in bar formation, mostly from coarse gravel; and/or some channelization present. 8-11 _____ | Moderate deposition of new gravel, coarse sand on old and new bars; and/or embankments on both banks. 6-10 _____ | Heavy deposits of fine material. Increased bar development; and/or extensive channelization. 0-3 _____ |
| 6. Deposition | Less than 5% of bottom affected; minor accumulation of coarse sand and pebbles as snags and submerged vegetation. 12-15 _____ | 5-30% affected; moderate accumulation of sand at snags and submerged vegetation. 8-11 _____ | 30-50% affected; major deposition of sand at snags and submerged vegetation; pools shallow, heavily silted. 4-7 _____ | Channelized; mud, silt and/or sand in braided or nonbraided channels; pools almost absent due to deposition. 0-3 _____ |
| 7. Channel sinuosity | Instream channel length 3 to 4 times straight line distance. 12-15 _____ | Instream channel length 2 to 3 times straight line distance. 8-11 _____ | Instream channel length 1 to 2 times straight line distance. 4-7 _____ | Channel straight; channelized waterway. 0-3 _____ |
| 8. Lower bank channel capacity | Overbank (lower) flows rare. Lower bank W/D ratio < 7. (Channel width divided by depth or height of lower bank.) 12-15 _____ | Overbank (lower) flows occasional. W/D ratio: 8-15 8-11 _____ | Overbank (lower) flows occasional. W/D ratio: 15-25. 4-7 _____ | Peak flows not contained or contained through channelization. W/D ratio > 25 0-3 _____ |

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| 9. Upper bank stability | Upper bank stable. No evidence of erosion or bank failures. Side slopes generally < 30°. Little potential for future problems. 9-10 _____ | Moderately stable. Infrequent, small areas of erosion mostly healed over. Side slopes up to 40° on one bank. Slight potential in extreme floods. 6-8 _____ | Moderately stable. Moderate frequency and size of erosional areas. Side slopes up to 60° on some banks. High erosion potential during extreme high flow. 3-5 _____ | Unstable. Many eroded areas. "Raw" areas frequent along straight sections and bends. Side slopes 60° common. 0-2 _____ |
| 10. Bank vegetation protection | Over 90% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation. 9-10 _____ | 70-89% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation. 6-8 _____ | 50-79% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation. 3-5 _____ | Less than 50% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation. 0-2 _____ |
| OR Grazing or other disruptive pressure | Vegetative disruption minimal or not efficient. Almost all potential plant biomass in present stage of development remains. 9-10 _____ | Disruption evident but not affecting community vigor. Vegetative use is moderate, and at least one-half of the potential plant biomass remains. 6-8 _____ | Disruption obvious; some patches of bare soil or closely cropped vegetation present. Less than one half of the potential plant biomass remains. 3-5 _____ | Disruption of streambank vegetation is very high. Vegetation has been removed to 2 inches or less in average stubble height. 0-2 _____ |

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| 11. Streamside cover | Dominant vegetation is shrub. 9-10 _____ | Dominant vegetation is of tree form. 6-8 _____ | Dominant vegetation is grass or forbes. 3-5 _____ | Over 50% of the stream bank has no vegetation and dominant material is soil, rock, bridge materials, culverts, or mine tailings. 0-2 _____ |
| 12. Riparian vegetative zone width (least buffered side) | > 18 meters 9-10 _____ | Between 12 and 18 meters. 6-8 _____ | Between 6 and 12 meters. 3-5 _____ | < 6 meters 0-2 _____ |
| Column Totals | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Score | | | | |